



WorldShare

window

the newsletter of www.worldshare.org.uk • issue 2022/1

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Editorial

Have you noticed over the last two years that what our society feels is important has changed? Back in the run up to Christmas, the talk wasn't so much about celebrating and eating, it was more about being with family and those who are important to us. Did we expect Christmas 2021 to have restrictions? Probably not, but then over the last two years we have got used to living with more uncertainty.

Pandemics, like disasters, have a beginning, middle and end. In the development world, the labels are different but there are still three parts:

- 1) Emergency response
- 2) Recovery
- 3) Reconstruction

Last summer in the UK, it seemed that we were entering the end phase of the pandemic and were starting reconstruction. People were no longer working from home, town centres were returning to some normality, international travel was opening up. Over the winter, things have once again taken a turn for the worse, but how has it been for our ministry partners?

Some of the vulnerable, marginalised communities our ministry partners work amongst are those that, even in better times, live on the edge. Take the communities in the Democratic Republic of Congo, who HEAL Africa works amongst (communities you will hear more about on the next page).

Against a background of civil war, HIV/AIDS, Covid-19 and the recent volcanic eruption they also have poor health care facilities and face economic poverty.

But there is hope. At a recent online event with HEAL Africa, CEO Justin Paluku responded to a question as to how we can help. The answer was:

"Pray for us, pray for the Congolese, pray for peace in Congo, if we have peace development will come."

So, with the new year underway, will you please join us in praying for HEAL Africa and all our ministry partners who work with communities on the edge?

Alan Butler, Chief Executive

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Overcoming trauma in DR Congo



In May 2021, we launched an emergency appeal to support HEAL Africa, following the eruption of Mount Nyiragongo in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Thankfully, the HEAL Africa hospital and most of the city of Goma were spared, but more than 400,000 people were forced to leave their homes and, due to the chaos, over 150 children were tragically separated from their parents.

In response, HEAL Africa worked to identify these children and provide them with support including food, shelter and loving care, initially through a network of foster families. The response of WorldShare supporters to this emergency situation was amazing and meant that we were able to send over £3,000 to help HEAL Africa with these efforts.

Praise God that since May, many children have been reunited with their families.

Whilst this is brilliant news, lots of the children were left traumatised from the experience and in need of ongoing support. That's where HEAL Africa was able to step up again. In the village of Kibati, 15km north of Goma, where about 350 families affected by the eruption are living in extreme poverty, HEAL Africa has launched the 'Separated Children Project'. This provides counselling and assistance for children still with foster families, as

well as those who have been reunited but are dealing with the continuing trauma of what has happened.



The art of Capoeira in action

Part of this project includes classes in 'Capoeira'; a mixture of martial arts, music and dance, originating in Brazil. Characterised by non-violent movements, it is a technique intended to help the social re-integration of children following trauma. HEAL Africa's Capoeira team is going to Kibati three times a week to run workshops. The brilliant initiative encourages teamwork, builds self-confidence and emotionally empowers the children.

Emily Hobbs

We thank God for using HEAL Africa to bring care and counselling to children in DR Congo, who have faced unimaginable hardships this last year. Please pray for the 'Separated Children Project', that it would go from strength to strength and have a positive impact on the lives of many.

Restoring hope in Lebanon



The noise of children scabbling around for pen and paper fills the room, a teacher calls the class to attention and another day of lessons begin. The kind of ordinary day you would expect to find children across the world experiencing. The kind of day which has been robbed from children who have been forced to flee conflict and persecution.

The kind of day which is giving Syrian refugees, like Hana*, their lost childhood back and restoring hope.

After being forced to flee their home country, Hana, her three siblings and her mother, have joined the more than 1.6 million refugees living in makeshift camps in Lebanon.

The kind of refugee camp which Hana and her family now call home



Hana's mother works in the fields near the refugee camp they now call home, but her meagre income is barely enough to feed her four children and herself, let alone cover school fees at the nearby government school.

This is an issue which confronts so many refugee families, and one that is worsening as Lebanon continues

to suffer the impacts of a deepening economic crisis. A crisis brought on by multiple pandemic lockdowns, ongoing political instability and the Beirut explosion in 2020. More than half of the country's population has now fallen into poverty.

For Syrian refugees, who were struggling to make ends meet before these disasters struck, life is now unimaginably hard.

Providing an Oasis

In the midst of this chaos and suffering, our ministry partner, the Free Evangelical Association of Lebanon (FEAL), is shining a light through its Oasis programme.

For Hana and her siblings this means the chance to learn.



Many young refugees like Hana are receiving an education thanks to FEAL

Each week, through the Oasis programme, local FEAL leaders Pastor David* and Sister Esther* provide free classes in French, Arabic and Maths,

and share stories about Jesus with 40 children, including Hana and her siblings. Hana, along with her classmates, has made great progress. Her teachers share:

"Hana is learning how to read and write and enjoys listening to stories about Jesus. She loves attending our programme."

Hana is one of many displaced children who feels like a child again because of FEAL's Oasis programme. Despite the difficulties these children experience, those who attend have a safe place where they can learn, grow in their faith and find community.



FEAL runs a whole range of activities for refugee children

Beyond education

As well as education, the team provides food relief ensuring the families of these children do not have to go hungry, and they are passionate about sharing the hope they have in Jesus. Three house churches have now been established among the Syrian refugee families, and members are being trained in church leadership.

Praise God that already the team has seen those they have trained lead songs, give sermons, pray for one another and begin to plant new churches.

FEAL is currently working with 120 Syrian refugee families in the camp

*names changed for security reasons

where Hana lives, providing hope, a future, and a caring community to those who have lost almost everything. Over the last ten years, FEAL has continued to see this area of ministry grow and has now set up more than 10 refugee support centres across the Middle East.

Beyond refugees

Support for the unreached in Lebanon does not end with ministry in the refugee camps. Over the last few years, God has placed on the hearts of the FEAL team the need to care for those of other faiths living in and around the refugee camps they serve, who are also facing hardships because of the continuing economic crisis.

Pastor David* shares how they have been able to connect with 20 new families:

"In the midst of all the exceptional circumstances... we are sharing the love of God with them. We talk about the difficulties they are facing in life and through the work we are doing, 15 people accepted Christ as their personal Saviour. They are all experiencing internal peace, even though the situation around them is really tough."

The team have been making regular home visits which have brought great comfort over the last couple of difficult years to families they are supporting.

Harriet Robson

Today, please join us in praying for the many challenges Lebanon is facing at this time, for the Syrian refugees who are rebuilding their lives and for the FEAL team as it helps to restore hope in people's lives.

Thank you for your amazing support

Thanks to your generous donations and faithful prayers, you have helped to raise:

Over £8,000 for our Christmas/Winter Appeal to provide Bibles, blankets and hot meals for refugees, bringing warmth and the Word of God this winter to those who otherwise would have no hope or sense of belonging.



Over £14,000 for our Freedom from Modern-Day Slavery Appeal. Through your support, more than 40 families in the brick kiln communities of Pakistan can now break free from the cycle of bonded labour and build a better future.



Over £13,000 through the purchase of Freedom Gifts. Your generosity has helped to provide hope, change lives, and even transform a whole community. And remember, Freedom Gifts are not just for Christmas! They are available to buy all year round – perfect for birthdays and anniversaries. Visit: worldshare.org.uk/freedom.

We would also like to say a special thank you to all of you who passed on your second copy of the Freedom Gifts catalogue. We are delighted to have received orders from new supporters this year!



Woof brothers get creative again!

Following their successful fundraising efforts during lockdown and Christmas 2020, brothers Ezra and Joseph Woof decided to design and sell Christmas cards again in 2021 to raise funds for WorldShare. They promoted their cards on Facebook, inspiring support through their fun videos. Thanks to their fantastic creativity and dedication, a further £101 was raised from the proceeds.

In total, the boys have raised over £350 for WorldShare – fantastic work!

Mum Tina explains what motivated them: *“When Ezra first suggested raising funds to help those less privileged than us, I wanted to encourage him. Joseph’s love of paper crafts inspired our card making initiatives, and this time the boys made 25 packs of 4 Christmas cards. Family and friends love to support their efforts, and it’s great to know that the donations will go to projects that empower local people.”*



“Could you raise money for WorldShare too?”



Women for Christ in Nepal



Three years ago, Sushma from western Nepal was given a terminal diagnosis by doctors and warned she had little time left to live. A situation she faced with God’s strength and is now using to encourage others.

Last year, after defying all odds, Sushma, along with 16 other young women, joined Good Friends of Nepal’s Women for Christ training programme. Over five months, these young women, from some of the poorest parts of the country, spent time in fellowship together, being equipped both spiritually and practically.



Learning new skills for the whole community

During the programme, Sushma and her fellow learners were discipled and spent many hours studying the Bible, strengthening them in their faith. Alongside this, they learnt a whole range of community development skills such as agriculture, animal care and tailoring. Skills which the young women can now take back to their own communities and use to train others. All helping to improve livelihoods and practically demonstrate the love of Christ.

God’s healing and strength

The group faced many challenges learning amidst a devastating wave of Covid-19 that saw the country go into lockdown. And yet Sushma brought much encouragement to the group, giving them the courage to continue despite the circumstances. She inspired many by sharing her testimony of God’s healing and strength:

“I had already died according to the doctors but now I live today only because of the life that God has given to me.”

Praise God that the group managed to complete their training, and all the women were able to graduate and return home safely to their communities.

Harriet Robson



Sushma and her fellow Women for Christ graduates

Sushma’s testimony is now one of living, living for Christ. She has overcome her health problems and is leading in her local church, as well as sharing the practical skills she has learnt with other women. All helping to lift her community out of poverty and come to know the good news of Jesus.

WorldShare Week is back!

Monday 14th – Sunday 20th March 2022



WorldShare Week is a special occasion to intentionally pray, share stories and raise funds for our ministry partners, working around the world to bring hope in their communities. This year it will be bigger and better than ever before!

Tell Two in 2022!

You might have noticed something slightly different about this issue of Window magazine - it contains two invitations. That's because we have an exciting opportunity lined up for you in WorldShare Week 2022.

This year, the main focus of the week is on spreading the word. We are blessed to have many supporters, just like you, who regularly share their love of our ministry partners' work with family members, friends and neighbours. It is amazing to see some of their loved ones then going on to be faithful WorldShare supporters themselves. One of our wonderful long-term supporters, Susan Simpson, enjoys telling her church friends about WorldShare by sharing our Facebook posts. She explains what motivates her.

"We're all called to 'Go' and to 'Share'... So, I do my best to share what I can on Facebook to try and introduce a wider vision of God's world and its needs."

We love to see your passion helping to grow the awareness of all that we do, and so that's why we've launched a brand-new online event.

'Why WorldShare?'

To kick off the week, on Monday 14th March at 7pm, we will be holding an online event called 'Why WorldShare?'

The event will be an exciting and engaging introduction to WorldShare for people who don't yet know who we are or what we do. In around 30 minutes, we will seek to answer the question 'Why WorldShare?' through an array of exclusive video interviews and stories. You and your invitees will be able to see the diverse impact of our ministry partners through footage of their work and the people they support. You will also have the chance to hear from a few current supporters, as they share how they got involved and why they've stuck with us!

You only have to read some of the amazing stories in this issue of Window to see how vital the work of our ministry partners is. Each new supporter of WorldShare will be instrumental in contributing to that work continuing.

To that end, we would love you to prayerfully think of two people you could invite to 'Why WorldShare?'

Perhaps you have a niece or nephew who has just received their first salary and wants to get involved with a charity but doesn't know where to start? Or a friend at church who is a teacher and might be interested in supporting an organisation which partners with local leaders to provide education? Or an elderly neighbour who recently shared with you their feelings of helplessness when they watch the news and their desire to make a difference?

Who will you invite?

Simply fill in the enclosed invitation and pass it on, or send an electronic version available at worldshare.org.uk/whyworldshare. All the details of how to join the event are available on our website, but do contact us on: info@worldshare.org.uk if you, or your invitees, need assistance or have any further questions. We are looking forward to seeing your passion for WorldShare spread far and wide.



Other ways to support WorldShare Week

Of course, just because the emphasis of WorldShare Week 2022 is on 'Telling Two!' it doesn't mean we're not encouraging you to pray for and/or fundraise for our ministry partners.

You may remember that during last year's WorldShare Week, we took on a physical staff team challenge to raise funds for life changing work. We are already discussing what challenge to take on this year, so keep an eye out for updates on our social media channels!



We can't wait to introduce new people to the inspirational work of our ministry partners at our exciting 'Why WorldShare?' event. Don't forget to pass the enclosed invites on to two people you think might love to get involved. Thank you!

ChildAid is expanding



In the last year we have had the joy of welcoming not one, but two new ChildAid partnerships to the WorldShare family. Today, join us as we say hello to each of them and find out how they are bringing hope to children's lives through their child sponsorship programmes.

Hello Sunshine Cambodia!

Locally led Christian ministry, Sunshine Cambodia, has been supporting vulnerable children and their families in the Cambodian capital city of Phnom Penh for over 20 years. They are passionate about bringing children off the streets and into the classroom, where they have the chance to build a better future. Their Associate Director, Sochetra, shares:

"We believe in education development. We want to support the children living in poor communities to access a good education so they have the option of a better life."

Cambodia is one of the poorest countries in the world, with around 20% of the population living below the poverty line, and many families struggling with malnutrition and lack of education. Sunshine Cambodia supports children facing these problems by providing access to quality education, working with parents and teachers to ensure children have safe, supportive environments at home and school, and sharing God's love.

Hello Bangalore City Mission!

Bangalore City Mission (BCM) serves families living in poor, urban communities surrounding the rock-cutting quarries of Bangalore, India. A place where families endure back-breaking work and a life of exploitation. BCM is helping transform the lives of these families by providing opportunities for education, vocational training and child-care services.



Serving vulnerable children in Bangalore

Through the local school it has established, Sinclairs High School, BCM is able to help many children. They provide a free, quality education to children who would otherwise be unable to afford it, alongside school transport, medical care and school supplies. This is leading to generations of poverty being broken.

Today could you prayerfully consider stepping out in faith and sponsoring a child from Bangalore City Mission? There are three children who currently need sponsorship. To find out more visit: worldshare.org.uk/childaid or email: clare.hill@worldshare.org.uk

Looking to the future in Haiti



Months may have now gone by since a devastating earthquake struck the southwest peninsula of Haiti in August 2021, and the news reporters may have moved on, but the need of communities remains. And so too does the servant heartedness of our partners on the ground in Haiti, who continue to serve those most affected.

In the days and weeks which followed the earthquake, our local Haitian partner was able to provide emergency supplies to 4,400 families. This was thanks to the staggering generosity of supporters around the world and the hard work of over 300 local volunteers and local church and community leaders in Haiti.

It took huge amounts of courage and determination, with teams rising daily at 3:00am and travelling for hours on treacherous roads through the night due to daytime deliveries being at risk of attack from looters.

Local churches mobilised volunteers to distribute supplies and helped teams to identify vulnerable people in the most hard-to-reach communities. An amazing 163 churches stepped out in faith to help, providing not only their time but words of encouragement and prayers.

"The real heroes are the courageous church & community leaders who, despite their own losses, provided help and hope to the people around them." Local Haitian partner

Rebuilding Homes

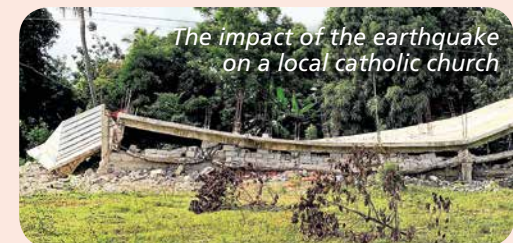
The priority on the ground has now shifted to the huge need to rebuild more than 53,000 homes which were destroyed and repair a further 77,000 which were damaged. A need which our local partner is responding to, helping communities to look to the future.

With the support of a local organisation, who has technical expertise in rural house construction, engineers will examine houses and recommend the best strategy. Alongside this they will train local builders how to 'build back better', ensuring that houses are more earthquake and hurricane resistant.

All this would not have been possible without the prayers, and financial support of so many supporters.

Harriet Robson

"We say 'mèsi anpil' (thank you very much) to everybody who has made this help possible, demonstrating the love of Christ to people in their hour of greatest need." Local Haitian partner



The impact of the earthquake on a local catholic church

Legacy giving – a supporter story



Last year, I (Vanessa) had the joy of talking with WorldShare supporter John Brown. John shared with me how he and his wife Jean came to faith, why they are so passionate about supporting WorldShare and why John has chosen to leave a gift to WorldShare in his Will. I'll let John tell his story in his own words.

"The month of June 2015 was one of great upheaval for me and my wife Jean; she was diagnosed with Moderately Severe Alzheimer's. Life has never been the same since, but the Lord has been very gracious in the way we have received support from our family, friends, carers, GPs, psychiatrists and most of all from Him.

When we received the news, a solicitor friend of mine at our church advised me to revisit my Will and protect my estate. Back in 2003 both Jean and I had written our Wills and at that time neither of us had any savings so we decided to just leave a gift in our Wills to our local church.

It was also about this time that we decided to sponsor a child through WorldShare's child sponsorship scheme, ChildAid. I had a private education and Jean had a grammar school education, and we are grateful that this enabled us both to obtain a professional qualification.

Sponsoring a child was something we could easily afford, with a relatively small amount making a big difference to the education and job prospects of a child in India.

Fast forward to 2015 and our financial circumstances had changed. We had both inherited money and most of Jean's inheritance and savings were likely to be used up by carers and care home fees. By now I was supporting a number of charities including WorldShare, so I included gifts to those charities in my new Will.



Faithful WorldShare supporters John and Jean

WorldShare was the most important one because on my death, my monthly child sponsorship would immediately stop. I don't want this to happen so by leaving a gift in my Will to WorldShare, I can make sure that the children I now sponsor will be provided for until new sponsors can be found.

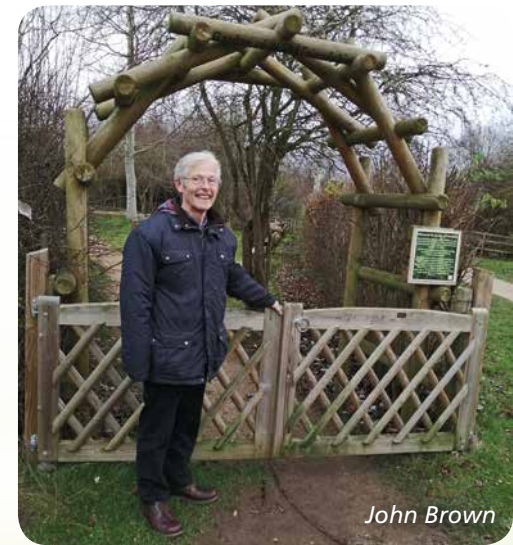
One of the things all families have found in this pandemic is the importance of a child's education continuing in whatever form; be it daily attendance, online, or home schooling.

If you support the education of a child through WorldShare, then one way you can continue to do this even after you have passed on to a far better place is to leave a legacy to WorldShare.

The child we support in India told me in one of his letters that one of the things he missed most in this pandemic is not being able to be with his friends on the child sponsorship scheme because they were all having to learn from home."

Leaving a gift in your Will is one way of making provision for the charity or charities you care about. In John's case, he has decided to do this to ensure that the children he sponsors through WorldShare are provided for when his sponsorship stops. Some supporters choose to leave a gift in their Will to support a specific ministry partner or area of work, for example, ChildAid, health, church planting or anti-trafficking. Others decide to allow their gift to be used where it is most needed at the time.

If you would like to discuss leaving a gift in your Will with a member of the WorldShare team, in confidence of course, please email: legacy@worldshare.org.uk.



John Brown

Whatever your passion is, we will ensure that your wishes are honoured and your gift is used where it will have the greatest impact. Thanks to John sharing his decision to leave a gift to WorldShare in his Will with us, we are able to record his wishes and thank him during his lifetime.

A Will is an important legal document so we suggest that you seek professional legal advice when making or changing a Will. A solicitor will discuss your wishes with you so that you can make proper provision for your family and the charities you care about.

Vanessa Riley



Latest News

In September we welcomed back Emily Hobbs, our Marketing and Communications Assistant, from maternity leave. It is great to have Emily back and already she has been working on lots of creative content, including a few articles in this magazine.



Another joy for September was Clare Hill, our wonderful Administration & ChildAid Officer, celebrating a whopping 30 years with WorldShare. We praise God for Clare's faithful commitment to our ministry partners and supporters, and the all-round joy she brings to the office!



The WorldShare board of trustees welcomed a new member in summer 2021, Victoria Balasubramanian. Victoria has many years of academic experience and is currently working as a lecturer in health and social care. She is passionate about taking the Gospel to all nations of the world and using her skills to help communities develop, so they can enjoy the goodness of the Lord Jesus Christ.



It is with great sadness that we share the news that Mike Dorgan passed away in November. Mike was a faithful WorldShare representative and employee, and many supporters will remember him. He was passionate about sharing the Gospel across the world. Please pray for his wife Hazel and two children Russ and Rachel as they grieve, and give thanks for all that Mike did living out his life for God.



Freepost envelopes are changing

You may have noticed that the freepost envelope included with this magazine has had a facelift. We are always looking to improve our systems and that has led us to reconsider our current freepost process. We would be most grateful if you would use these refreshed envelopes going forward.

What that does mean is that large letters and parcels will no longer be able to be sent to us via the freepost system, and so these will have to have their postage paid. We can send out larger envelopes than the standard one, should you wish to send something like a birthday card for a sponsored child.

If you have the older style envelope, we will only be able to receive them until the end of June, but after that date, we will not receive what was sent.



WorldShare

To give to WorldShare, please fill out this form and return to us, using the enclosed Freepost envelope or post to WorldShare, Armstrong House, First Avenue, Doncaster DN9 3GA.

My gift

WorldShare where most needed

No need to acknowledge my gift (please save postage)

Other (please specify)

I enclose my cheque/charity voucher made payable to **WorldShare**

Please debit my debit card/credit card/CAF card:

(We are not able to take American Express)

<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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Valid from

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Signature

Date

I want my gift to be worth 25% more

I would like to Gift Aid my donation*

giftaid it

*I want to Gift Aid this donation to WorldShare and all donations I make in the future. I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay any difference. WorldShare will claim 25p for each £1 I've given. I will notify WorldShare if I want to cancel this declaration, change my name or home address or no longer pay sufficient tax on my Income and/or Capital Gains.

My details

Title _____ First Name _____ Surname _____

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Tel _____

Postcode _____ Email _____

We would love to share with you information, updates and appeals for the amazing work of our partner ministries around the world. Please tick to let us know how you would like to receive communications from us.

(please tick) Email Post Phone

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